



# Orem Center Street bridge on I-15 closed this weekend

**Genelle Pugmire - Daily Herald | Posted: Friday, June 25, 2010 12:30 am**

**OREM** -- The Orem Center Street bridge on Interstate 15 and surrounding roads will close Saturday night for bridge demolition.

The on- and off-ramps will remain open, but Center Street underneath the bridge will be closed from 10 p.m. Saturday to 11:30 a.m. Sunday. If necessary, the area will be closed again from 9 p.m. Sunday to 5:30 a.m. Monday.

The Orem Center Street bridge is the next in line for a major face-lift in the I-15 CORE project. According to UDOT spokesman Scott Thompson, workers will demolish a portion of the bridge to accommodate widening of the freeway with additional lanes.

"We are adding two additional lanes to the bridge," Thompson said. "Drivers southbound will be able to exit the freeway but will have to head west and use either 400 North or 400 or 800 South to head east."

Construction crews will have barrels out on I-15 at the bridge area to shift lanes, but a great majority of the work will be done on the underside of the bridge. "We will demo the outside of the bridge this year and the inside next year," Thompson said. "It will be traditional bridge construction with everything brought up to code and made better seismically. Most of the bridges are 60 years old and need to be put up to today's standards."

County residents who travel to and from Orem and Provo the next month will see a number of closures and then months of construction work. With these main closures, the heat of summer may well be surpassed by heated drivers whose patience has worn thin.

"We expect that road rage will be there regardless of whether drivers are informed of the construction or not," Thompson said. However, he also says in the end the CORE project results will be amazing.

Crews will take the July 4 holiday off. After that, Thompson said, the work really begins. "We'll do this same type of demolition on July 7 and 8 on the Orem 800 North bridge, and on July 9, we will be taking down the flyover on the Provo Center Street exit."

UDOT offers a few ways to stay up on construction news. You may sign up for e-mail notices at [www.udot.utah.gov/I15core](http://www.udot.utah.gov/I15core); become a Facebook fan at [facebook.com/I15core](https://facebook.com/I15core); Twitter information at [twitter.com/I15core](https://twitter.com/I15core); receive text messages every Monday or when breaking news occurs by texting I15 to 83043.



Orem Center Street entrance ramp to 1-15. The 1-15 Core project will be closing the Orem Center Street exits Saturday evening preparing for bridge work. Jun 24, 2010 KRISTIN HEINICHEN/Daily Herald